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7 August 1979

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

FROM : [REDACTED]
Executive Officer, ODP

SUBJECT: Board of Directors Meeting on ODP's Word Processing
Strategy - 3 August 1979

PRESENT: [REDACTED]

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1. During preliminary discussions [REDACTED] reported that CSPO and [REDACTED] had agreed to use compatible word processing equipment for the exchange of data in magnetic media between their organizations. Therefore, CSPO has a keen interest in any standard for word processing equipment established by ODP.

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2. Mr. Johnson reviewed the NFAC Word Processing Study and their decision that the NBI 3000 was the best equipment for their requirements. [REDACTED] will follow NFAC's lead. Discussions of the desirability of ODP becoming familiar with the NBI 3000 led to the Board of Directors meeting.

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3. [REDACTED] argued that the NFAC and [REDACTED] requirement was primarily for publishing. This is not true of other components in the Agency. For them the NBI 3000 is overkill. He argued against establishing the NBI 3000 as a single standard.

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4. [REDACTED] said that Management Staff had decided to change from Lanier to the NBI 3000 to maintain compatibility with NFAC's standard and to gain some experience with it. The fact that the "No Problem", Lanier's word processor, had not been Tempest tested also played a part in the decision.

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5. [REDACTED] argued that multiple word processing equipment standards to meet the broad range of Agency requirements made more sense than a single standard. He saw at least three machines--Delta Data, NBI 3000, and IBM MCST. Mr. [REDACTED] expressed similar views.

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6. [REDACTED] said that the first Delta Data with complete word processing capability will not be available until mid 1980.

7. [REDACTED] argued for keeping ODP's options open rather than settling prematurely on a final solution.

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8. The Board concluded that word processing proposals with reasonable requirements should not be delayed until some standard or standards are established. Each proposal should be evaluated on its own merits and an appropriate solution implemented as soon as practical. Where publishing applications are involved, however, the customer will be steered to the NBI 3000, and once the Delta Data is available, it is expected to satisfy most routine word processing requirements.



cc: DD/P
DD/A
C/SPS
C/MS
D/ODP

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